



Press Release | 08.09.2011

Pola Sieverding
CLOSE TO CONCRETE
22.09 - 16.10.2011

Everywhere contained everything outside it. Everywhere was without place, without where.

Beatriz Colomina

The exhibition **CLOSE TO CONCRETE**, by **Pola Sieverding**, arises from the artist's residency in Lisbon over the summer of 2011, during which she filmed and photographed the Alta de Lisboa neighbourhood where the Lumiar Cité gallery is situated. The exhibition includes a photography and video installation in which the artist moves her gaze from people, her focus in previous work, to the glass and concrete walls that form the urban fabric of Alta de Lisboa.

The video that the artist created can be seen as a wandering gaze upon formalism, touching on *concrete* manifestations of utopia and questioning the meaning of the abstract representation of space as a living space. Utopia appears as a non-place that can be viewed as a sculptural structure without a connection to a particular place, producing, nevertheless, a space that becomes social and mental. The video sound track is a variation of the opening sequence from Sergio Leone's film "C'era una volta il West". In that film, the landscape and its sounds emphasise the inner tension of the characters and a sound-scape is added to the visual space. Based on this method, and also alluding to Michelangelo Antonioni's film "L'eclisse", Sieverding regards architecture as a visual correspondent, a character in its own right, to refer to a potential human space.

A visual sense of the landscape that in most of the images denotes a lack of a clear

trajectory, as well as a sonic space semi out of sync with the visual space, suggest a narrative for the existing form, not only in the representation of its surface but also in the absence of what it contains.

22.09 | 19h00 Talk by **Pola Sieverding**
07.10 | 18h00 Guided tour by **Bruno Leitão**
15.10 | 18h00 Lecture by **Erik Göngrich**: The Beginning of the Misunderstanding

(both the talk and the lecture will be in English)

For further information please contact:

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Lumiar Cité, Rua Tomás del Negro, 8A, 1750-105 Lisboa
Wednesday to Sunday, 15.00 to 19.00

Lumiar Cité is a space of Maumaus.

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